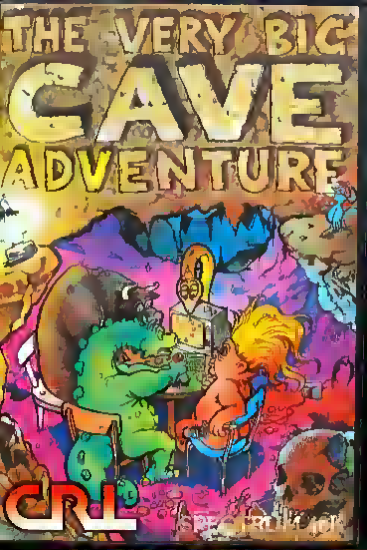
THE VERY BIG CAVE ADVENTURE



CRL

THE VERY BIG CAVE ADVENTURE

SPECTRUM 48K

LOAD ""

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the very big CAVE adventure

ABOUT THIS PROGRAMME

If I were to tell you that you are holding in your hands the very first computer adventure you wouldn't believe me

You wouldn't say so of course because I am still holding the tape tomatic from the other side of this bit of paper But you wouldn t believe me

And you d be wrong

Way back at the dawn of computing history enshrouded by the mists of time (or perhaps it was just Jack Tramiel's cigar smoke), there was a computer game called simply "Adventure" It didn t need any other name because there were no other computer adventures It was set in a complex of very big caves which were called simply the Very Big Caves for similar reasons

Things were simple in those days as you can see But nothing could be quite so simple as the minds of the people who wrote the adventure Indeed there are many who would argue that simple was too mild a term and that something more expressive was needed such as "colebrious" or perhaps "criminally moronic"

I shall leave others to debate these finer points of language The gist is that this adventure was rather then any computer programme has ever right to be It is better cheaper rather then a length of cassette tape people would have rung for the men in white coats on sight

Those sniffy individuals who think that adventures are superior to mindless alien zapping obviously never played this one When it comes to sheer unadulterated mindlessness this programme leaves all the arcade games at the starting post wondering what happened

Even The G***l Sp*ce R*ce

Strong men who devote their whole lives to telling people how useful and valuable computers are breeze in their tracks at the mere mention of this programme

Well you catch my drift It is the kind of programme which gives computers a bad name Come to think of it is the kind of programme which gives idiots a bad name So you won t be surprised to learn that in the interests of the good name of computing, the game was banned

The original programmers were persuaded that it would be in the interests of their health not to publish the adventure They were offered a certain sum of money to part with all rights to the adventure It was an offer they couldn t refuse

Then a couple of programmers were offered a contract to produce a new sensible version of the game In return they were given a fresh start in life Clean records New names The names were C***ther w*d W**ds

So everything ended well The original game was buried deep The good name of computing was saved

Or so it seemed

Some years later however the original game was unearthed by a St Brides pupil Like so many great discoveries it was made by pure accident The girl had been innocently hacking into a computer system owned by a major American government agency with a view to diverting the payment of the British national debt into her personal account She came to an area deep within the system which was so rigorously protected by security codes that she left sure that this must be where they kept the hoodle What she in fact found were the contents of this tape

Let there be no misunderstanding We are well aware that the publication of this tape may deal a blow to the reputation of computing from which it could take decades to recover Nobody could be more concerned with the good name of computing than ourselves so it is with much heart searching that we have weighed one consideration against another On the one hand it was the good name perhaps the very future of computer technology On the other was the chance of a fast buck

It just wasn t a contest

We proudly present to the public in general and to you in particular The Very Big Cave Adventure

INSTRUCTIONS

To load The Very Big Cave Adventure type **LOAD""**

In this game the computer understands most simple English sentences like **"EAT THE FOOD"**, **"BREAK THE DOOR DOWN"** etc

The game loads in two parts At the end of part one you will be asked to save your position This must be done to tape or disc (not RAM) You will then be asked to load the position in at the beginning of part two This will enable you to carry with you all the objects you wish to take from part one as well as all the money you have made up to that point

Several special commands are used in the game

INVENTORY (or I) will list all the things you have with you

EXAMINE will allow you to take a closer look at almost any object in the game make frequent use of this command

SAVE and **LOAD** allow you to save your position to tape or disc There is also a special facility which allows you to save position instantaneously into the computer's memory To do this just type **SAVE** or **LOAD** as normal and answer RAM to the prompt Tape or RAM?"

TEXT and **GRAPHICS** Every location in this game is illustrated If you prefer a text only adventure just type **"TEXT"** Type **"GRAPHICS"** to turn the graphics back on

The Very Big Cave Adventure was written with The Quill, Patch, The Illustrator and lots of N*scafé

Back Cover Blurb

Somewhere deep in the primordial forest known to men as Epping lies a valley which time has forgotten and everyone else would like to. And in the depths of that valley locked firmly into the solid granite is an iron grate. A grate which if it could be opened would lead the hopeful traveller into a vast network of underground caves in which he might find riches beyond his wildest dreams or encounter grim death in a thousand fiendish forms.

Alright Bell up I know you've read all this sort of stuff before. This is a cassette inlay you know. You've got to write things like that on cassette inlays. Now if you don't zip your face up and listen to the rest of it I'll throw that rotten tomato right back at you. Only I won't miss.

Well, now you've interrupted me I might as well introduce myself. My name is Trixie Trivian I'm a prefect at St. Bride's and a crack shot with a tipe tomato. I also happen to be the best possible guide for grasping adventurers seeking fame and fortune in the Very Big Caves.

And even if I'm not I'm the only one you're going to get.

SPECTRUM

FULL INSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE OF THIS INLAY

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